PATENT APPLICATION

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Annette M. Turk, Legal Assistant

March 9, 2001 (Date)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jacobus Hubertus TACX

Serial No.: UNKNOWN : Examiner: UNKNOWN

Priority claimed to NL 1014610

Filed: Herewith (March 9, 2001) : Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

For: HOME TRAINER

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box: Patent Applications Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

In the Claims:

- 1. (Amended) A home trainer designed to accommodate a bicycle, the home trainer comprising a brakable drive roll incorporated in a frame, which drive roll can be mounted in a friction coupling with a driven wheel of the bicycle, a sub-frame provided on the frame that is rotatable about a first pivoting point, the drive roll being mounted in the sub-frame, a handle provided on the frame and rotatable about a second pivoting point, which handle is adjustable between an operational position wherein the handle pushes the sub-frame towards the wheel such that the drive roll and the wheel maintain the friction coupling, and a neutral position wherein the handle releases the sub-frame such that the drive roll and the wheel do not engage.
- 2. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 1 wherein the handle is provided with an adjustable tuning knob for determining the position of the sub-frame in the operational position.

- 3. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 1 wherein at a side directed towards the sub-frame, the tuning knob is provided with a bush, and the sub-frame has a sliding rim designed to intermate with the bush, the sliding rim terminating in a recess which, when the bush is placed therein, determines the operational position of the handle.
- 4. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 1 wherein the drive roll is coupled with a flywheel that conducts at least partially magnetic lines of flux, and additionally comprising a position-adjustable magnet located near the flywheel.
- 5. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 4 wherein the magnet is adjustable to a position between a neutral position near a pivoting point of the flywheel and a maximal brake position near an outer circumference of the flywheel.
- 6. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 4 wherein the flywheel comprises recesses over a periphery located near the neutral position of the magnet.
- 7. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 4 wherein the flywheel comprises an aluminum disc and wherein a remainder of the flywheel is substantially made of steel.

8. A home trainer according to claim 4 wherein the magnet is coupled with a spring-loaded cable and the magnet is adjustable by operating a cable.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment to the claims is being offered in a format acceptable to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. No new matter is presented by this Amendment. Entry of this amendment by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached paper is captioned "<u>Version with Markings to Show Changes Made</u>."

Authorization is given to charge payment of any fees required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Acct. 13-4213.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Dated: March 9, 2001

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

- 1. (Amended) A home trainer designed to accommodate a bicycle, the home trainer comprising a brakable drive roll incorporated in a frame, which drive roll can be mounted in a friction coupling with a driven wheel of the bicycle, [characterized in that on the frame (1)] a sub-frame [(7) is] provided on the frame that is rotatable about a first pivoting point [(6)], the drive roll [(5)] being mounted in the sub-frame [(7)], [and in that the frame (1) is further provided with] a handle [(9)] provided on the frame and rotatable about a second pivoting point [(8)], which handle is adjustable between an operational position [(Fig. 2)] wherein the handle [(9)] pushes the sub-frame [(7)] towards the wheel [(4)] such that the drive roll [(5)] and the wheel [(4)] maintain the friction coupling, and a neutral position [(Fig. 1)] wherein the handle releases the sub-frame [(7)] such that the drive roll [(5)] and the wheel [(4)] do not engage.
- 2. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 1 [, characterized in that] wherein the handle [(9)] is provided with an adjustable tuning knob [(10)] for determining the position of the sub-frame [(7)] in the operational position [(Fig. 2)].

- 3. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 1 [or 2, characterized in that] wherein at [the] a side directed towards the sub-frame [(7)], the tuning knob [(10)] is provided with a bush [(11)], and [in that] the sub-frame [(7)] has a sliding rim [(12)] designed to intermate with the bush [(11)], the sliding rim [(12)] terminating in a recess [(13)] which, when the bush is placed therein, determines the operational position [(Fig. 2)] of the handle [(9)].
- 4. (Amended) A home trainer according to [one of the preceding claims, characterized in that] <u>claim 1 wherein</u> the drive roll [(5)] is coupled with a flywheel [(14)] that conducts at least partially magnetic lines of flux, and [in that further] <u>additionally comprising</u> a position-adjustable magnet [(15) is provided which is] located near the flywheel [(14)].
- 5. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 4 [, characterized in that] wherein the magnet [(15)] is adjustable to a position between a neutral position near a pivoting point of the flywheel [(14)] and a maximal brake position near [the] an outer circumference [(14')] of the flywheel [(14)].

- 6. (Amended) A home trainer according to [one of the claims 4-5, characterized in that] <u>claim 4 wherein</u> the flywheel [is provided with] <u>comprises</u> recesses [(18) preferably] over a periphery located near the neutral position of the magnet [(15)].
- 7. (Amended) A home trainer according to [one of the claims 4-5, characterized in that] <u>claim 4 wherein</u> the flywheel comprises an [aluminium] <u>aluminum</u> disc [(19)] and [in that the] <u>wherein a remainder of the flywheel [(14)]</u> is substantially made of steel.
- 8. A home trainer according to [one of the claims 4-5, characterized in that] claim 4 wherein the magnet is coupled with a spring-loaded cable [(16)] and [that] the magnet [(15)] is adjustable by operating [the] a cable [(15)].

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